

Hearing Impairment has a significant impact on pupil development:

- delayed language development;
- limited vocabulary;
- communication with others;
- spoken language intelligibility;
- written English;
- social skills;
- emotional development;
- confidence and self-esteem

Strategies to Help a Learner with a Hearing Loss

- **Favourable seating position-** some learners do not like to sit in the very front but need to be near the front, with a friend.
- **Gain learner's attention** before important information given.
- **Keep background noise to a minimum** –from equipment e.g.

computers, furniture, movement and chat of pupils in the class.

Hearing aids amplify **all** sounds.

- **Speak clearly** with a slow speech rate.
- **Allow learners more time to think and talk.**
- **Repeat contributions** from other pupils in class discussions as hearing aids do not pick up over an extended range.
- **Check** occasionally that information given orally has been understood.
- **Use visual aids** whenever possible
- **Don't talk and write at the same time** pupils need to see your face.
- **Don't turn lights off** before giving verbal instructions.
- **Don't make the learner concentrate on lipreading** for too long without a break.
- **Don't overload a learner with too many oral instructions.**
- **Don't always expect an immediate answer-wait**
- **Don't assume that a pupil has certain knowledge** especially uncommon vocabulary. Check what they know first.
- **Remember that deaf learners cannot pick up auditory information in the same way as hearing pupils**, e.g. television.

**CYNGOR BWRDEISTREF
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MERTHYR TYDFIL
County Borough Council

Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
MERTHYR TUDFUL

IMPACT OF DEAFNESS

LEARNING DEPARTMENT

Adran Dysgu

IS YOUR SCHOOL DEAF FRIENDLY?

Think about the deaf learners needs in and out of the classroom, making sure that they are being included and following what is happening, e.g. events, jokes. Try to be flexible in your teaching and use a range of techniques and methods.

Be aware of background noise (inside and outside) as this can affect deaf learner's access to communication.

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Encourage everyone involved in daily school life to become deaf aware.

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